

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday May 2nd 1999

Silent Key

It is with deep regret that we have to report on the tragic death of Mike Crosby EI3GP, who died in a mountaineering accident while returning from an AREN exercise run in conjunction with the Annual Maamturk Walk on Sunday evening last. Mike, aged 42, was treasurer of Galway radio club for many years and was widely known throughout EI. To his wife Bernie and two children, we extend our deepest sympathy.

IRTS Annual General Meeting

The IRTS Annual General Meeting and Rally was held over last weekend in the Fairways Hotel in Dundalk, hosted by the Dundalk Radio Club. The weekend began with the Annual Dinner on Saturday night and festivities went on for some of the visitors until early morning. Guests of the Society at the dinner were two representatives of the Office of the Director of Telecommunications Regulations, John Breen and Aidan Ryan. Despite high expectations, they had no good news to announce. However, they did say that the long awaited new regulations for radio experimenters have cleared their office and must now be placed before both houses of the Oireachtas for final approval. Three months is the time scale being spoken of for their implementation.

The Rally opened at 11.00am on Sunday morning and a good crowd enjoyed a wide ranging display of both old and new radio gear as well as computers, models, alarm systems and a display by the army of both modern and vintage military radio equipment. A large bring and buy was a feature of the event. Colm EI3H broadcast the Sunday morning news bulletins from the venue.

The AGM itself was held at 1430 and over 50 members attended. Amongst the attendance were four visiting amateurs from the Korea Telecom Radio Club. Both the committee report and the Treasurer's report were approved without dissent. Membership figures are higher than expected thanks to a great response to the recent mailshot to all non-members. It now looks like that the magic barrier of one thousand members could be achieved shortly.

An expansion of the awards available for The Worked All Ireland Scheme was announced at the meeting. Two new awards are being introduced, one for 1,000 squares and 15 islands and one for 1,400 squares and 25 islands. Applications for

these awards should be made in the usual manner to Tom Rea, EI2GP.

A first day cover from the Campbell Island DXpedition, ZL9CI, was donated by Declan EI6FR and was raffled for charity. The lucky winner was Aidan Ryan of the ODTR. We will carry news of the award winners in next week's bulletin.

Wicklow Wireless Society

Wicklow Wireless Society will host a talk and slide show by Declan EI6FR on Tuesday week, that's May the 11th. Declan will detail his experiences with the ZL9CI DXpedition to Campbell Island during January this year. The venue is the Ravenswell School in Bray and visitors will be very welcome on the night. Further details from Sean EI4GK on 01-2821420.

Marconi Day Report

Wicklow Wireless Society were active from Moran Park House in Dun Laoghaire for Marconi Day last weekend using the callsign EI4IMD. They operated for Marconi day on Saturday and continued on Sunday with a demonstration station. Anthony EI2HY and Mike EI2IB also operated Marconi Station as usual from Crookhaven in West Cork using the callsign EI5IMD.

Mayo Radio Experimenters Rob Mannion G3FXD/EI5IW, Editor of Practical Wireless, was in Mayo last weekend to officially open the Mayo Radio Experimenters Visitors Station in the Wishing Well in Ballyvary. A permanent station will be available to visitors to the area who wish to operate HF without the hassle of setting up portable aerials. All they have to do is plug in their own radio. Congratulations to the Mayo club for another innovative project.

Tipperary AREN

Tipperary AREN provided safety and administration communications to Aherlow Failte and Tipperary Hillwalkers on Sunday April 11th for the Annual Galtee Mountain Walking Festival. The operators involved were EI2HI, EI2IT, EI3ENB, EI5GE, EI6GO, EI6FQB, EI6FRB, EI7FE, EI8EPB and EI9ELB. The exercise involved setting up a base station in the Glen, a mobile station and operators accompanying the walkers.

Looking ahead

Fingal Radio Club will hold it's Radio & Electronics Exhibition on Sunday next 9th May at the new venue in Erin's Isle GAA Club, Farnham Drive, Finglas. Access is very easy from the M50.

Terenure Radio Club will hold their annual rally on Sunday May the 23rd in Terenure College Concert Hall. Doors open at 11.00 am.

The next big contest on the calendar is the WPX CW over 48 hours on May the 29th and 30th.

Please note that Dave EI4BZ has changed jobs and the old telephone and fax numbers are no longer valid. In the short term, he can be contacted during the day on 087-2444423 and as normal in the evenings at 021-883555.

Input for the Newsletter should be sent to Kevin EI7IM at QTHR or on the phone at 01-4509514 or by E-mail to EI7IM@tinet.ie All input to either the radio news or newsletter can also be sent by e-mail to news@irts.ie

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